MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Medicines are given free to well-to-do patients also to the extent available in the hospitals.

Alleppey Commercial Canal.

66. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total length of the Alleppey canal known as the *Alleppey Commercial Canal*;

(*b*) what portion of this canal has been completed, and how much still remains to be completed;

(*c*) when the work of improvement of this canal was begun, and when it is likely to finish;

(*d*) the amount spent till now on the improvement of the canal, and the amount likely to be spent for completing its improvement; and

(*e*) whether the unfinished portions have been maintained from year to year, and if so, what the amounts spent on the improvements during 1097 and 1098 are?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) 2¼ miles roughly

(*b*) 1 mile and 271 running feet (except for a short length on one side in the third section); 6 furlongs remain to be done.

(*c*) Medam 1086. It is likely to be finished in about five years.

(*d*) The amount spent till now is Rs. 4,85,000. About 3 lakhs more will be required to complete the improvements.

(*e*) Yes. The expenditure on the maintenance of the unfinished portion of the canal was Rs. 663 in 1097, and Rs. 560 in 1098 including the finished portions.

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